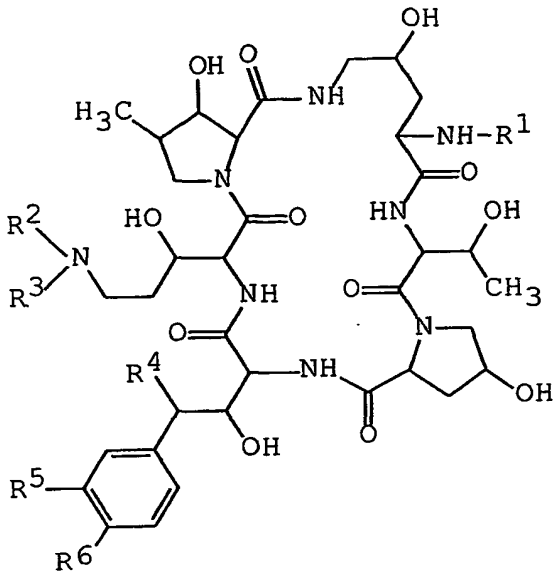
C L A I M S

1. A polypeptide compound of the following general formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R^1 is hydrogen or acyl group,

R^2 is hydrogen or acyl group,

R^3 is lower alkyl which has one or more hydroxy or protected hydroxy,

R^4 is hydrogen or hydroxy,

R^5 is hydrogen, hydroxy, lower alkoxy or hydroxysulfonyloxy, and

R^6 is hydroxy or acyloxy,

or a salt thereof.

2. A compound of claim 1, wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, lower alkoxycarbonyl, higher alkanoyl or benzoyl substituted with one or more suitable substituent(s),

R^2 is hydrogen,

R^3 is lower alkyl which has one or more hydroxy,

R^4 is hydrogen or hydroxy,
R^5 is hydroxy or hydroxysulfonyloxy and
R^6 is hydroxy.

3. A compound of claim 2, wherein
R^1 is hydrogen, lower alkoxycarbonyl, higher alkanoyl or benzoyl substituted with one or more suitable substituent(s),
R^2 is hydrogen,
R^3 is lower alkyl which has two hydroxy,
R^4 is hydrogen or hydroxy;
R^5 is hydroxy or hydroxysulfonyloxy; and
R^6 is hydroxy.

4. A compound of claim 3, wherein
R^1 is benzoyl substituted with a suitable substituent selected from the group consisting of
thiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having phenyl substituted with morphlino having lower alkyl,
thiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having a suitable substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkoxy(lower)alkoxy and lower alkoxy(higher)alkoxy,
piperazinyl substituted with phenyl having piperidyl substituted with a suitable substituent selected from the group consisting of phenyl having lower alkoxy(lower)alkoxy,
cyclo(lower)alkyloxy and lower alkoxy(lower)alkylthio,
piperazinyl substituted with phenyl having phenyl substituted with morpholino having lower alkyl,
imidazothiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperidyl substituted with a suitable substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkoxy(lower)alkoxy and lower alkoxy(lower)alkylthio,
imidazothiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having

lower alkoxy(lower)alkoxy,

phenyl subsutituted with piperazinyl having phenyl substituted with morpholino having lower alkyl,

isoxazolyl substituted with phenyl having lower alkoxy(lower)alkoxy,

isoxazolyl substituted with phenyl having higher alkoxy substituted with morpholino having lower alkyl,

thiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperazinyl substituted with cyclo(lower)alkyl which has one or more suitable substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkoxy(higher)alkoxy and phenyl,

thiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperazinyl substituted with lower alkyl having cyclo(lower)alkyl,

thiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperidyl substituted with one or more suitable substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of cyclo(lower)alkyloxy, lower alkoxy(lower)alkoxy and lower alkoxy(lower)alkoxy(lower)alkyl,

thiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperidyl substituted with cyclo(lower)alkyl and lower alkoxy,

thiadiazolyl substituted with pyridyl having piperazinyl substituted with cyclo(lower)alkyl having lower alkyl,

imidazothiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperidyl substituted with cyclo(lower)alkyl,

imidazothiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperazinyl substituted with cyclo(lower)alkyl having lower alkyl, and

phenyl substituted with piperazinyl having cyclo(lower)alkyl substituted with one or more suitable substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of cyclo(lower)alkyl which may have lower alkoxy, lower alkyl,

lower alkoxy and phenyl which may have lower alkoxy,
R^2 is hydrogen,
R^3 is lower alkyl which has two hydroxy,
R^4 is hydrogen or hydroxy;
R^5 is hydroxy or hydroxysulfonyloxy; and
R^6 is hydroxy.

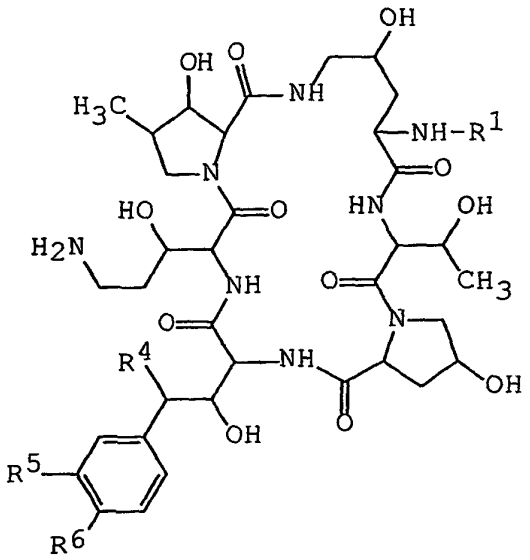
5. A compound of the claim 4, wherein
R^1 is benzoyl which has thiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperazinyl substituted with cyclo(lower)alkyl which has lower alkyl,
benzoyl which has thiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperidyl substituted with cyclo(lower)alkyloxy,
benzoyl which has phenyl substituted with piperazinyl having cyclo(lower)alkyl substituted with cyclo(lower)alkyl and lower alkoxy, or
benzoyl which has thiadiazolyl substituted with phenyl having piperidyl substituted with cyclo(lower)alkyl,
R^2 is hydrogen,
R^3 is lower alkyl which has two hydroxy,
R^4 is hydrogen or hydroxy;
R^5 is hydroxy or hydroxysulfonyloxy; and
R^6 is hydroxy.

(to be continued to next page)

6. A process for preparing a polypeptide compound (I) of claim 1, or a salt thereof,

which comprises,

1) reacting a compound (II) of the formula:

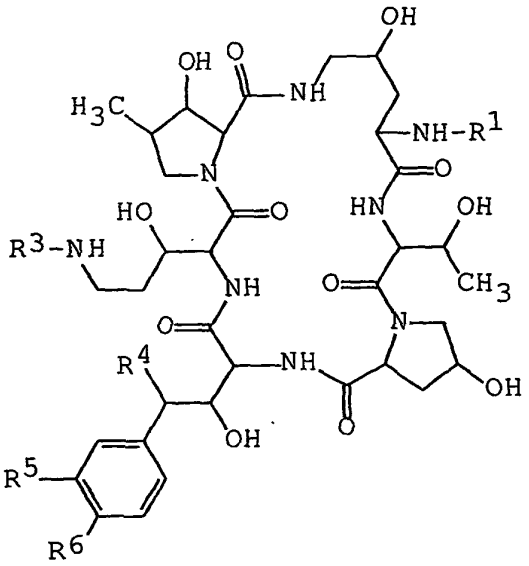


(II)

wherein R^1, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are defined in claim 1, or its reactive derivative at the amino group or a salt thereof, with a compound (III) of the formula:

$$R^3{=}O \qquad \text{(III)}$$

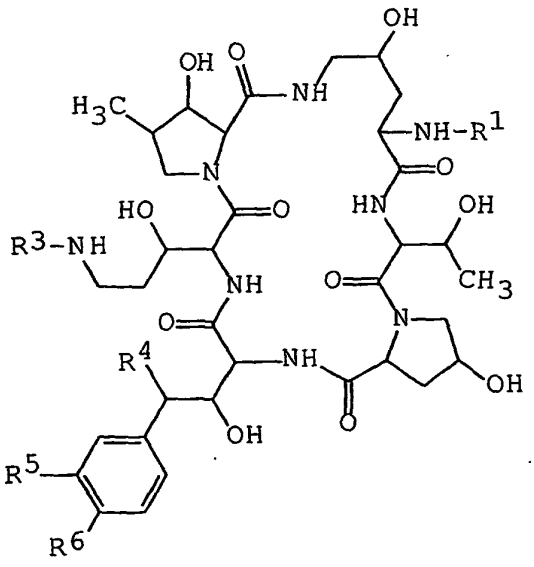
wherein R^3 is defined in claim 1, or its reactive derivative or a salt thereof, to give a compound (Ia) of the formula:



(Ia)

wherein R^1, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are defined above, or a salt thereof, or

ii) reacting a compound (Ia) of the formula:

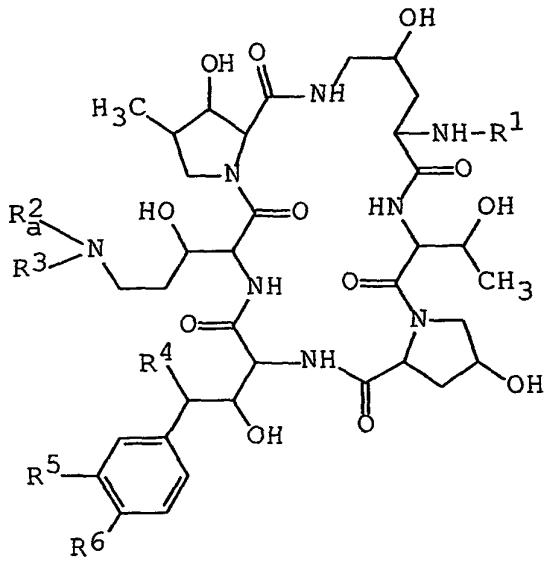


(Ia)

wherein R^1, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are defined in claim 1, or its reactive derivative at the amino group or a salt thereof, with a compound (IV) of the formula:

$$R^2_a\text{-OH} \qquad \text{(IV)}$$

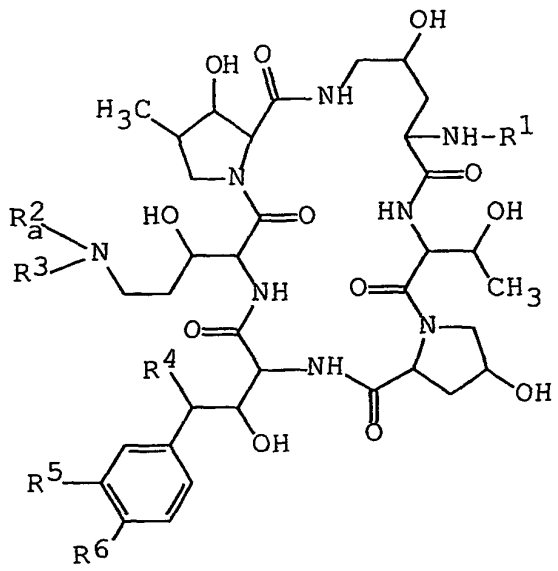
wherein R^2_a is acyl group,
or its reactive derivative at the carboxy group or a salt thereof, to give a compound (Ib) of the formula:



(Ib)

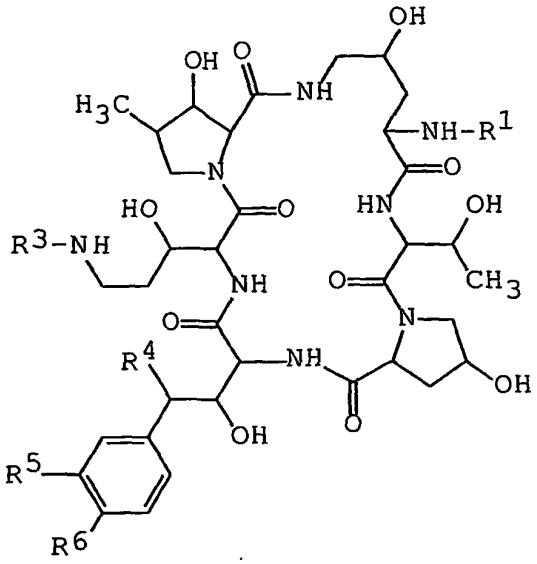
wherein R^1, R^2_a, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are defined above, or a salt thereof, or

iii) subjecting a compound (Ib) of the formula:



(Ib)

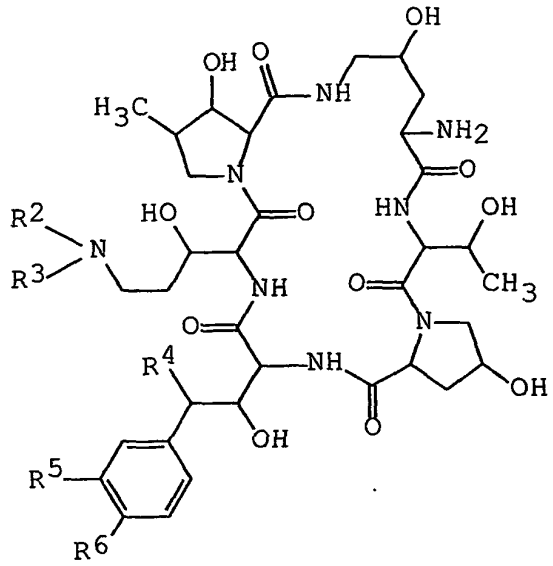
wherein R^1, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are defined in claim 1,
R^2_a is acyl group,
or a salt thereof, to elimination reaction of the acyl group, to give a compound (Ia) of the formula:



(Ia)

wherein R^1, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are defined above,
or a salt thereof, or

iv) reacting a compound (Ic) of the formula:

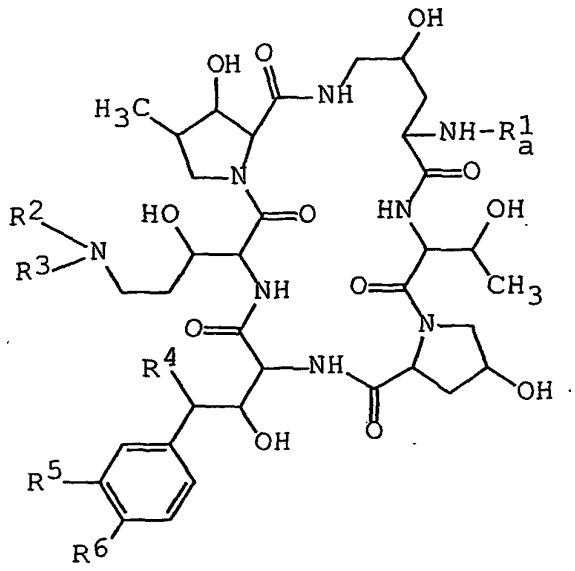


(Ic)

wherein R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are defined in claim 1, or its reactive derivative at the amino group or a salt thereof, with a compound (V) of the formula:

$$R^1_a\text{-OH} \qquad (V)$$

wherein R^1_a is acyl group,
or its reactive derivative at the carboxy group or a salt thereof, to give a compound (Id) of the formula:



(Id)

wherein R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are defined in claim 1, R^1_a is defined above, or a salt thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises, as an active ingredient, a compound of claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in admixture with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or excipients.

8. Use of a compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the manufacture of a medicament.

9. A compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use as a medicament.

10. A method for the prophylactic and/or therapeutic treatment of infectious diseases caused by pathogenic microorganisms, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to a human being or an animal.

11. A commercial package comprising the pharmaceutical composition of claim 7 ~~and~~ a written matter associated therewith, wherein the written matter states that the pharmaceutical composition can or should be used for preventing or treating infections disease.

12. An article of manufacture, comprising packaging material and the compound (I) identified in claim 1 contained within said packaging material, wherein said the compound (I) is therapeutically effective for preventing or treating infectious diseases, and wherein said packaging material comprises a label or a written material which indicates that said compound (I) can or should be used for preventing or treating infectious diseases.